



Call to drop charges, boycott IHOP Community fights racist police terror

By Lizz Toledo
Atlanta

March 31 started as a wonderful evening out with family, celebrating my mother-in-law's birthday. We saw the Temptations and the Four Tops, and sang and danced into the night. Afterward, we were hungry, so we decided to go to an International House of Pancakes (IHOP) restaurant near the concert venue in Marietta, Ga., next to local landmark the Big Chicken.

The IHOP manager was rude. When my husband complained about the food, the manager responded by saying, "Each cook is different," and threw the plate across the table.

A few minutes later, we heard a man (later identified as Renardo Lewis) loudly asking, "Why didn't you tell me this 30 minutes ago?"

We started moving towards the door since it was time to go. I heard the same manager who was rude to my husband screaming at Lubreeze Franklin Lewis, Mr. Lewis's wife: "I don't have to give you my name or number." She then asked for the phone number of the corporate office, and this too was refused by the IHOP manager.

Then, two police officers, a man and a woman, entered the restaurant and I began to record the incident.

The male officer escalated the situation by yelling at Mr. Lewis to shut up, without any provocation. Mr. Lewis, who is Black, asked the officer not to yell at him and to treat him like a man.

Three more cops then entered the restaurant. Mr. Lewis and his

wife were not allowed to leave, although they were not under arrest. One of the cops who had just arrived asked Mr. Lewis for identification. As he was pulling his ID out of his wallet, he was pushed against a window by three officers.

The first racist cop who'd come in screaming joined his fascist pals to restrain Mr. Lewis. This first cop tased Mr. Lewis five times and punched him several times, breaking his tooth and injuring his head.

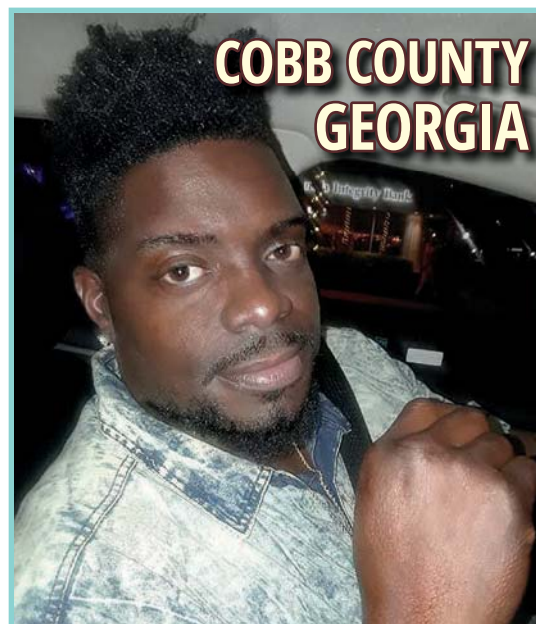
Three of these officers came in without asking any questions and assaulted this African-American man. They pushed his wife and my sister as they were trying to help.

As can be seen in the video, at no time did Mr. Lewis threaten or touch any of the officers, their tasers or guns!

The Marietta Police Department posted a bunch of lies on their Facebook page to cover their racist response to a call involving a Black man. However, the video says it all.

Renardo Lewis is being held without bond as these racist cops try to come up with a way to justify what they did. Right now, according to the media, he's being held for making "terroristic threats." The truth is all on video, and there is no justification for the gestapo tactics these and other cops use against Black and Brown people.

Mr. Lewis is not alone. On April 2, his spouse and children, attorney and community supporters from Marietta and Atlanta held a press conference and protest demanding that the charges be dropped and that IHOP apologize for its staff's racist behavior. 📺



COBB COUNTY
GEORGIA

Rally to Demand Justice for RENARDO LEWIS

APRIL 6 5 pm - 6 pm

IHOP, 179 Cobb Parkway
South Marietta, Ga.

**Abolish the racist police!
Boycott IHOP!**

Further actions to be announced.

You can watch the video on Struggle-La Lucha's website:
tinyurl.com/y5d36oxu

The Peoples Power Assembly and other groups are asking people to call, fax and e-mail John Melvin, Acting District Attorney of Cobb County.

**Demand that he do the right thing
and drop all the charges against
Renardo Lewis.**

John Melvin, 70 Haynes Street,
Marietta, GA 30090
Phone: (770) 528-3080
Fax: (770) 528-3030
cobbdistrictattorney@cobbcounty.org

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WET'SUWET'EN

Blocking gas pipeline

The Likhts'amisyu clan of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation oppose a planned pipeline through their traditional territory and will build a new camp to block its path.

A statement posted on Facebook says the Wet'suwet'en First Nation is asserting its sovereignty by creating "a new, permanent land reclamation on their territory."

The Coastal GasLink pipeline would transport natural gas from northeastern British Columbia to LNG Canada's export terminal on the coast in Kitimat, B.C.

"It's important that people realize this fight is far from over," the statement says.

"The events of December and January should be regarded as one phase in a struggle that has been going on for a decade. A new phase of struggle will begin in the spring of this year, and it may prove to be the decisive one."

More at tinyurl.com/y4y4kt2l



Yellow Vests week 20

Yellow Vest protesters took to the streets of Paris on Saturday, March 30, for the 20th straight week of anti-government demonstrations, in spite of the French authorities' crackdown on the movement.

Last month, the French government deployed military forces and banned protesters from marching on the Champs-Élysées and in other areas, after clashes with the police, nearly 200 arrests, and damage to businesses by some protesters. Police used tear gas and water cannons on crowds in Paris.

The protests have now lasted five months. The Yellow Vests have called out Macron's pro-business economic policies, demanding fair wages for working-class and middle-class citizens, and heavier taxation on the wealthy.

More at tinyurl.com/y5fyl89m

Message to the movement:

Don't justify war and sanctions

By John Parker

In March alone, the U.S. State Department listed eight additional sanctions against Venezuela, further adding to the denial of that country's use of assets or its ability to receive international loans. Before the latest measure added on March 19, U.S. sanctions already cost Venezuela \$30 million per day.

Should sanctions be considered an act of war? Since 1990, according to United Nations and non-governmental organization (NGO) data and well-researched scientific studies, it's estimated that at least 4 million people have died from the U.S. "war on terror" in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan alone.

The majority of those deaths didn't come from direct killings, but rather from denial of necessities like clean water, medicine and food.

That denial is caused by U.S. and Western European use of international sanctions — utilizing their control over the United Nations.

U.S.-led U.N. sanctions share some telling similarities. For one, they are racist and genocidal in nature — disproportionately targeting non-European countries and those least able to endure the denial of basic needs, especially African countries.

The Consolidated List of individuals and entities subject to sanctions by the U.N. Security Council exposes the fact that, although

peoples on the continent of Africa make up 17 percent of the world population, they represent 64 percent of the countries affected by U.N. sanctions.

Meanwhile, in Venezuela, 57 percent of the population are of Indigenous or African ancestry.

Imperialist sanctions are also justified in similar ways. They are supposedly made to rid people of government leaders engaging in corruption, violence and denial of democratic rights. Of course, their sovereignty must go as well.

The bottom line is that sanctions are an integral part of the declared and undeclared wars of U.S. imperialism, passed on from one administration to the next — whether Democratic or Republican. Their purpose is to bring about

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Marches honor Black women's struggles

By Gloria Verdieu
San Diego

San Diego celebrated Women's History Month by commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved Africans in Jamestown, Va., in 1619, as recorded by historian Lerone Bennett Jr. in "Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America."

Two Black women's marches were held in San Diego: the 1619 National Celebration of Black Women (1619 NCBW) and the Second Annual March for Black Women-San Diego (M4BWSD). Both events were organized and led by Black women.

A tale of two marches

The 1619 NCBW march and rally was held on March 2 in Ruocco Park, at one of San Diego's ports of entry near downtown. Sheryl Malory-Johnson, founder and visionary of the 1619 march, explained: "This historic national movement arose out of the necessity to honor women in American history who have emerged from slavery, defied the odds and come out victorious. Women who bred, fed and nurtured an entire nation."

"Our mission is to recognize the extraordinary contributions women of African descent have made in building this country," said Malory-Johnson. "Through a dynamic vision of uplifting and educating Black women and girls about their ancestors, we inspire them to walk in their power."

The second annual M4BWSD was held on March 10 in Southeast San Diego, in the heart of the Black and Brown community. Kelsey Daniels, one of the co-founders, explained that M4BWSD was "created for the purpose of uplifting the demands of Black women." It originated in San Diego as a result of two town hall meetings in 2017 where Black women made it clear that they had something to say about our current condition.

Born in response to the "Black Women's Blueprint" call to action and the legacy of the October 1997 Million Women's March in Philadelphia, organizers emphasized that it is not and



SLL PHOTO: GLORIA VERDIEU



PHOTO: 1619 NCBW

never will be a knee-jerk reaction to the failures of white feminism.

Both marches featured drumming, music, poetry and speakers who addressed the issues facing Black women.

Honor the past, fight for the future

Many people came out in the rain to participate in the 1619 NCBW march and rally, prompting Sheryl Malory-Johnson to say, "The rain is the tears of our ancestors." Other speakers noted that the rain was nothing compared to what our ancestors had to endure since arriving on this soil.

Speakers honored many Black women in history, past and present, including Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Ella Baker, Maya Angelou and Michele Obama. Honor was given to Black women survivors, inventors, writers, nurses, scientists, artists, architects, astronauts, journalists and the list goes on. Name it, we've done it.

Organizers of the 1619 NCBW event were presented with a San Diego City Council proclamation declaring March 2, 2019, to be "1619 National Celebration of Black Women's Day."

Giving voice to the voiceless

Organizers of the M4BWSD passed the mic to Black women who are rarely given the opportunity to speak, and whose voices need to be heard. Speakers praised the courage, strength and power of Black women. But they also spoke truth about what

we are facing today in San Diego.

One example is an upcoming court hearing in the case of 23-year-old Aleah Jenkins, who died in police custody on Dec.

6. Jenkins was arrested by police in La Jolla on a warrant. Then, something happened to Jenkins in the back seat of the police car. Police body cam footage showed her asking for help and finally saying she couldn't breathe. By the time Jenkins was finally taken to a hospital, she was in a coma with severe brain swelling; she died nine days later.

Then there is Muna Kuri, a 36-year-old Somali woman, who was found dead in her City Heights apartment on March 7. Authorities identified her husband as the main suspect. Kuri's cousin, who spoke at the rally, reported that Black women are killed at nearly three times the rate of white women.

Organizers emphasized that "we represent the most oppressed women," including trans women, and gave a condensed version of their four demands: Challenge and acknowledge the violence, end the abuse, increase access to health care and economic justice for low-income women.

March 10 was a beautiful, sunny day, and the march was over 300 strong. Marchers stepped off with a call and response chant: "Say their names!" and the response began with the names of Aleah Jenkins and Muna Kuri. Brown Berets provided security.

Although the two marches had different themes, speakers and atmospheres, both were successful, had community support and were about empowering Black women.

Love, protect and respect Black women. 📌



LABOR

NURSES

Vote to strike NYC hospitals

Nurses at New York City's three major private hospital systems — New York-Presbyterian, Mount Sinai and Montefiore — have been working without a contract since December 2018. On March 6, the New York State Nurses Association voted overwhelmingly to walk off the job. It was almost unanimous: 8,533 to 230.

The nurses gave the New York City Hospital Alliance, which represents the three hospital chains at the bargaining table, notice of an impending strike. The walkout, originally slated for April 2, was suspended after the alliance indicated it was prepared to make concessions on NYSNA's key demands, which revolve around patient care.

The union wants the hospitals to lower their patient-to-nurse ratios, which it warns are perilously high, to reduce clinic wait times and to open up more beds.

"Inhumane" and "savage" are the words NYSNA President Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez, who has over 30 years of ER experience, uses to describe the overcrowding at the hospitals. "We now have eight patients per floor on a stretcher in a hallway for their entire hospital admission, with only a screen separating them from the world, and it doesn't even cover them," she said, outlining conditions at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, where she works. "There's no privacy, no bathroom, no toilet."

More at tinyurl.com/y2u2ehqm



AUTO WORKERS

GM shuts Lordstown plant

Three weeks after workers at the Lordstown General Motors car plant in Warren, Ohio, assembled their last Chevrolet Cruze, employees are filing into the United Auto Workers Local 1112 hall to sign up for unemployment benefits.

Union workers are livid that they agreed to make \$118 million a year in annual concessions to save the plant in mid 2017, only to have GM effectively close it down a year and a half later.

The problem isn't high wages. It's falling profits. "We didn't discontinue the Cruze because of something the local union did or didn't do," GM's Dan Flores said. "It was a market-driven decision to discontinue the Cruze."

More at tinyurl.com/yyae23a9

Angola 3's Albert Woodfox welcomed

By Anne Pruden
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Nearly 200 people packed the auditorium of the Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza on March 27 to hear Albert Woodfox of the Angola Three speak about his new book, "Solitary: Unbroken by 4 Decades in Solitary Confinement."

A Black Panther prison organizer in Louisiana's infamous Angola, a slave plantation turned prison, Woodfox, along with Robert King Wilkerson and Herman Wallace, was framed for the 1972 killing of a prison guard. Woodfox spent the next 44 years in solitary confinement until winning his freedom in 2016.

Woodfox was interviewed by professor and journalist Jelani Cobb. He spoke of the harsh conditions

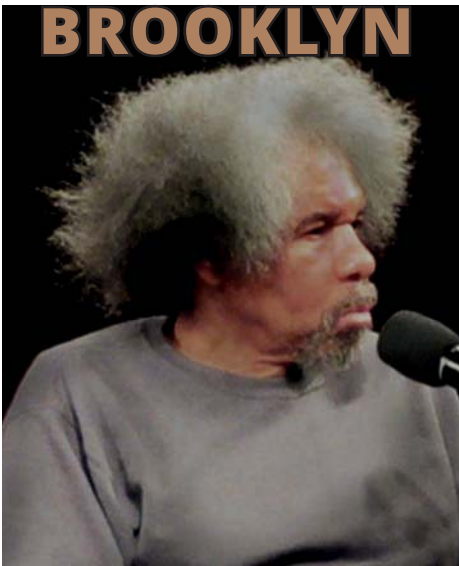


PHOTO: ANNE PRUDEN

of abuse, poverty and racism that he endured growing up in the Deep South, and how that led him into a

life of petty crime. He talked about discovering the Black Panther Party and how this changed his life.

Woodfox expressed the pain of losing Herman Wallace to cancer — he died just two days after being released in 2013 — after he had been denied proper care inside the walls. And he spoke with pride about how he and Robert King Wilkerson, who was released in 2001, travel around the country speaking against mass incarceration and in solidarity with political prisoners.

The event was attended by several Panther veterans and organizers in solidarity with Black liberation political prisoners who remain behind prison walls, including members of the Jericho Movement and the New York Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal. 📌



Dozens of Coca-Cola workers are camping out at a major bottling plant in Mexico until they get a raise. More than 8,000 Mexican Walmart employees were prepared to walk off the job until management met some of their demands. And 30,000 striking Mexican factory workers have finally returned to work after a monthlong strike.

Workers are organizing at unprecedented rates along the U.S.-Mexico border — in Mexico. Since January, thousands of factory workers have been striking for higher wages in Mexican border cities, which are home to hundreds of factories run by U.S. companies and subcontractors (maquiladoras). Factory workers, who generally earn about \$2.50 an hour, make car parts, washing machines, appliances and even soda for U.S. consumers across the border.

More at tinyurl.com/yydfr3l

War and sanctions

Continued from page 1

poverty, illness, starvation and desperation, targeting the people to weaken resistance to economic and military occupation.

Venezuela's critics

Today's version of endless wars started in Iraq. That nightmare of sanctions and war was justified by false U.S. government assertions that Saddam Hussein had "weapons of mass destruction," bolstered by the corporate media and even individuals and organizations on the left who, uncritical and unprincipled, would rather go with the State Department narrative to avoid any accusations of siding with dictators or terrorists.

These are similar to the "critical" voices that echo Washington's attacks against Venezuela's Bolivarian government regarding "flawed" elections. Never mind that all observers of the elections, from trade union officials to social justice organization leaders, lauded the process.

A recurring argument used by left critics and even some so-called socialists, and thus justifying the ire of the U.S., is that opposition candidate Henrique Capriles Radonski was disqualified from running in the 2018 Venezuelan presidential election.

They say that while Capriles was accused of illegally fomenting violence by encouraging a right-wing crowd to storm the Cuban Embassy and threatening diplomats with violence during the 2002 coup attempt against then-President Hugo Chávez, he was "cleared" of all charges.

Actually, there is video evidence showing Capriles — then mayor of Baruta — climbing the walls of the embassy, leading the attack. Capriles tried to force Cuban diplomats to turn over the vice president and other government officials to the crowd. The Cuban diplomats refused, and fortunately, massive demonstrations of the Venezuelan



SLL PHOTO: DAVID CARD

By Scott Scheffer

The revolutionary Bolivarian government of Venezuela has fought off a multipronged attack by the U.S. administration and today remains popular among millions of Venezuelans who have been lifted from poverty by Chavista policies.

The U.S.-anointed "interim President," Juan Guaidó, is weakened: his top aide has been arrested, he has been banned from running for public office, and his parliamentary immunity has been done away with.

Guaidó was banned from running for public office for 15 years by Venezuela's Constituent Assembly. The Constituent Assembly — in accordance with Venezuela's Constitution — was created after U.S.-backed right-wing politicians took over the National Assembly. It represents those in Venezuela who had no access to political representation prior to the election of the late President Hugo Chávez.

Just days after the Constituent Assembly imposed the 15-year ban, Guaidó was also stripped of parliamentary immunity. This move could even presage his arrest and prosecution for his treasonous collaboration with U.S. imperialism.

Russia and China are delivering large shipments of medicine and other aid. In another major blow to the Trump administration, Russia has begun sending troops and military equipment to send a message to Washington that Moscow supports Venezuela's sovereignty.

Two Russian air force planes, 100 special forces troops and — importantly — cybersecurity experts arrived in Caracas on March 23. Trump

administration figures are fuming over this, and Trump himself told reporters in the Oval Office, "Russia has to get out!"

Just a few days later, on March 26, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said that "Latin American countries are all sovereign states ... nor is Latin America a certain country's backyard."

Imperialist economic sabotage has caused hardship, but in addition to aid from Russia, China and other allies, the International Red Cross will now begin delivering supplies as well — initially enough to help 650,000 people survive the effects of the cruel U.S. economic warfare.

Hundreds of thousands of supporters of Nicolás Maduro turned out in Caracas on March 10 in an amazing show of defiance against Washington and the would-be coup makers. "I'm here to support President Maduro. ... He is the constitutional president of our Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela," said María Reyes, who was at the rally.

Trump's gangsters

To be sure, the struggle isn't over. Trump's three henchmen — John Bolton, Elliott Abrams and Mike Pompeo — seem committed to accomplishing a full-blown counter-revolution in Venezuela.

These three war criminals, having failed in the war against the Syrian people, are determined to turn back all of the revolutionary gains of Chavismo and grab the largest known oil reserves in the world for U.S. oil companies and banks.

If you had to pick one contemporary figure that personifies the bloody crimes of U.S. imperialism in

Latin America, it would have to be Trump's special envoy to Venezuela, Elliott Abrams. He is responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala during the Ronald Reagan administration, and his bloody history was exposed by U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar in a January congressional hearing.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo represents a current of imperialist hawks so right-wing and isolationist that they have been kept on the sidelines by the U.S. corporate establishment until recently.

National Security Advisor John Bolton, dredged up from the bloody Reagan-Bush era like Abrams, is the consummate CIA operative, infamous for his leading role in the Iran/Contra scandal — a U.S. intelligence agency plan to bolster their counterrevolutionary "contra" army in Nicaragua.

These three Trump administration criminals and countless others in Washington are frustrated over Russia's commitment to continued military help for the Maduro government and the failures of the Guaidó faction to gain ground against the revolutionary masses of Venezuela. Perhaps they have tabled the idea of direct U.S. intervention or of pushing Brazil and Colombia to invade for now, but they will continue to plot.

Many corporate media outlets continue to refer to the situation in Venezuela as a "rivalry" between two presidents. But the leader of the Cuban Revolution had it right: "A revolution is a fight to the death between the past and the future." All progressives must rally to the defense of the Venezuelan people. 🇻🇪

people in support of Chávez ended the U.S.-encouraged coup.

Capriles' organization had previously received hundreds of thousands of dollars from the U.S.-sponsored National Endowment for Democracy and the International Republican Institute.

So, was he cleared of those charges? No. He did commit those acts. However, he benefited from an amnesty by President Chávez in 2007 for all of those who participated in the coup attempt, which granted him a pardon.

Does that mean the Venezuelan people don't have the right to decide that he may be unqualified to run for president, being a known violent traitor and agent of U.S. imperialism?

The movement to build solidarity with the Venezuelan people, or the people of Zimbabwe, Iran, Yemen, People's Korea, Iraq, Libya and Afghanistan, or anywhere else that the nightmare of U.S. war and sanctions is occurring, will not benefit from repeating the lies of the U.S. State Department to justify its means of mass murder.

What's needed is to expose the truth that facilitates building a united movement to defeat the greatest threat to humanity today: U.S. imperialism!

To read the complete article, including detailed information on the effects of sanctions in Iraq, Yemen, Zimbabwe and other countries, go to StruggleLaLucha.org. 🇻🇪

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Socialistas se unen por Venezuela y lanzan nuevo partido

Por Greg Butterfield
Los Ángeles

Durante un fin de semana repleto de eventos en esta extensa metrópolis del sur de California, mucha gente salió a las calles por la Venezuela bolivariana, asistieron a una conferencia informativa sobre el socialismo; y activistas revolucionarios de todo Estados Unidos lanzaron una nueva organización para unir a los trabajadores y oprimidos en la lucha contra el capitalismo: el Partido Socialist Unity.

‘¿De quién son las calles? ¡Nuestras!’

El 16 de marzo fue un día de solidaridad internacional con el pueblo y el gobierno de Venezuela, quienes continúan resistiendo las sanciones económicas, el sabotaje político y las amenazas militares de Washington y sus aliados. Esa mañana, al menos 100 personas se reunieron en el Parque MacArthur en el corazón de un vecindario latino para exigir “¡Manos Fuera de Venezuela!” Fue una protesta iniciada por Struggle for Socialism – La Lucha por el Socialismo – y patrocinada por una coalición de 17 organizaciones.

Mientras las familias de clase trabajadora entraban al parque o compraban a los muchos vendedores que bordeaban las calles, fueron recibidas por manifestantes que portaban pancartas y carteles brillantes que exigían ¡No guerra contra Venezuela: dinero para empleos, escuelas, atención médica y vivienda! y ¡Presidente Maduro: Te defenderemos!

Se entregaron hojas informativas en español e inglés a los transeúntes, describiendo el trabajo que ha realizado Venezuela bolivariana para sacar al pueblo de la pobreza y contrastando al presidente Nicolás Maduro, ex conductor de autobuses y organizador sindical, con el multimillonario supremacista blanco Donald Trump.

En Venezuela, “las masas mismas eligieron democráticamente a su líder,” declaró la Secretaria General de BAYAN USA, Nikole Cababa, en un mitin de apertura. “Pero, lo que es más importante, han optado por oponerse a la intervención de los Estados Unidos.”

Gritando “¡No más sangre por petróleo!” y “¿De quién son las calles? ¡Nuestras!” los manifestantes tomaron los carriles de tránsito alrededor del parque mientras marchaban hacia la oficina del Centro Centroamericano de Recursos (CARE-CEN-LA) para un breve mitin de cierre.

Lizz Toledo de Atlanta le dijo a Struggle-La Lucha: “Queremos que Maduro y el pueblo de Venezuela sepan que estamos con ellos, y continuaremos luchando aquí, no solo por su sustento sino también por nuestro bienestar, porque tenemos el mismo enemigo.”

‘Reforcemos nuestra clase, no la derribemos’

Posteriormente, los organizadores invitaron a los manifestantes a asistir a la conferencia titulada “Unidad por el socialismo y la revolución.” Banderas de Venezuela, Cuba, Puerto Rico y Palestina decoraron el área de oradores, junto con la bandera roja de la URSS socialista, la bandera de liberación LGBTQ2S y otras. Voluntarios sirvieron chili vegetariano casero.

La conferencia, organizada por Struggle-La Lucha, abordó los siguientes tópicos: “Luchando contra el capitalismo global,” “Luchando por el socialismo” y “Solidaridad global.” Zola Fish, orgullosa miembro de la Nación Choctaw de Oklahoma y del Comité de Defensa de Leonard Peltier en San Diego, abrió la conferencia recordando a todos que se llevaba a



cabo en tierras robadas a las naciones originarias. Fish dedicó la reunión a mujeres indígenas y la lucha por mujeres, niñas y personas de dos espíritus asesinadas y desaparecidas (MMIWG2S).

John Parker de Struggle-La Lucha marcó la pauta. Al revisar la actual crisis económica capitalista global y las guerras imperialistas, Parker declaró: “No puedes llamarte socialista si ayudas a habilitar la guerra de los Estados Unidos. Si te llamas socialista, significa que estás luchando para acabar con el capitalismo, un sistema que se beneficia de la miseria y la guerra.

“Muchas de nuestras diferentes organizaciones se enfrentan a ataques por el estado,” continuó Parker, “y por instituciones y universidades estatales que intentan encontrar todo tipo de formas de negar la ciencia del socialismo y la clase que lo llevará a buen término. Intentan quitar la cuestión de clase de todas las demás preguntas y hacernos culpar a los demás, no a nuestro enemigo de clase.

“Destruir la unidad de nuestra clase trabajadora es un peligro para toda nuestra clase. Debemos reforzar nuestra clase, no derribarla. Debemos educar, no eliminar, a nuestra familia del pueblo trabajador.

“No toleramos la misoginia ni el fanatismo anti-LGBTQ2S, no toleramos el racismo y no toleramos ninguna ideología que enfrenta a un sector de nuestra clase contra otro,” concluyó Parker. “Ninguna opresión debe ser enfrentada contra otra por el beneficio del oportunismo sin principios.”

‘No se necesita una invitación a la revolución’

Otros oradores abordaron la lucha por los derechos de los migrantes y las caravanas de refugiados centroamericanos en la frontera, las huelgas magisteriales en Los Ángeles y otras partes del país, la lucha contra el terror policial y en solidaridad con los prisioneros, la lucha contra la destrucción del medio ambiente por parte del capitalismo y otros temas.

Gloria Verdieu de San Diego ofreció una charla inspiradora sobre la vida y la lucha del prisionero político Mumia Abu-Jamal. Otro san dieguino, Benjamín Prado de Unión del Barrio, habló sobre el trabajo de esta organización que representa a la comunidad chicano-mexicana en California: “Nuestra lucha es organizar a nuestro pueblo, recuperar nuestra tierra y construir una sociedad socialista en sostenibilidad con la Madre Tierra.”

La revolucionaria puertorriqueña Berta Joubert-Ceci describió la toma de control de la economía de la nación isleña por parte de una junta de control financiero impuesta por Estados Unidos como un “experimento de laboratorio [para] un nuevo tipo de dictadura y modelo económico.” Hablando por teleconferencia, Mahtowin Munroe de United American Indians de Nueva Inglaterra habló sobre la importancia de las luchas indí-



genas y la descolonización en la lucha por el socialismo. El activista laboral Andre Powell enfatizó la importancia de tener una comprensión marxista de la lucha de lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, transgéneros, queer y dos espíritus.

Jesús Rodríguez, editor de la Tribuna del Orinoco y ex diplomático venezolano, habló brevemente por internet desde Caracas. El reciente ataque de Estados Unidos a la red eléctrica de Venezuela es comparable solo en gravedad al sabotaje del petróleo de 2002-2003, dijo. Lamentablemente, la presentación de Rodríguez se vio interrumpida por problemas de conexión derivados del sabotaje eléctrico.

Cheryl LaBash, de Struggle-La Lucha, describió que la clave del avance de los 60 años de resistencia de Cuba al imperialismo estadounidense es la unidad. Cuba se esfuerza por construir la unidad socialista entre los trabajadores, como lo demuestran las recientes discusiones en todo el país que condujeron a la votación sobre la adopción de su nueva constitución. Otros oradores hablaron sobre la solidaridad con el magisterio brasileño, Filipinas, China socialista, Corea Popular, Vietnam, y la lucha antifascista en Ucrania y Donbass.

La conferencia recibió varios saludos internacionales de organizaciones obreras y antiimperialistas desde Brasil hasta Alemania, Rusia y las repúblicas de Donbass.

Las maravillosas actuaciones culturales fueron un punto culminante, incluyendo a los poetas Irene Sánchez y Matt Sedillo, y el poeta y baterista de Conga Julio Rodríguez quien interpretó “Invitación a la revolución”: “No necesitamos una invitación a la revolución.” Todos son bienvenidos a trabajar por una solución.”

Los asistentes a la conferencia votaron por unanimidad enviar un mensaje de solidaridad a la exiliada palestina Rasmeh Odeh, cuya libertad para viajar y hablar en eventos políticos ha sido atacada por el gobierno alemán bajo la presión de Estados Unidos e Israel.

El evento concluyó con una presentación y discusión especial liderada por Clarence Thomas, líder jubilado del International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) y cofundador del movimiento Million Worker March, quien habló sobre sus experiencias en la lucha de la clase trabajadora, desde la huelga de 1968-1969 en el San Francisco State College dirigida por estudiantes negros, al boicot de la ILWU contra el apartheid de Sudáfrica.

“La naturaleza de una huelga es como una pequeña revolución,” dijo Thomas. “Los trabajadores están obligados a desarrollar estrategias y tácticas. Las huelgas, como las revoluciones, pueden llevar a derrotas y reveses. También pueden conducir a tremendas victorias.”

Se funda el Partido Socialist Unity

El 17 de marzo, trabajadores de muchas partes de los EUA, incluidos negros, latinoamericanos, asiáticos y del Pacífico, indígenas, mujeres, géneros oprimidos y trabajadores LGBTQ2S, se reunieron para fundar una nueva organización en la lucha contra el capitalismo: el Partido Socialist Unity.

Juntos, el grupo ya publica un periódico quincenal, un sitio web y enlaces de noticias diarias más una transmisión de radio mensual. Encuentre archivos y más información en Struggle-La-Lucha.org. Síguenos en Facebook y Twitter. Si le gusta lo que estamos haciendo, por favor envíe una donación. 📧

